

Songs and Sounds Canciones de Perú

The following song is the national song of Peru and was written by Chabuca Granda.

La Flor de la Canela

Déjame que te cuente *limeña
Let me tell you Limean woman
Déjame que te diga la gloria
Let me tell you the glory
del ensueño que hoy evoca la memoria
of the dream that evokes the memory
del viejo puente, el río y la alameda
of the old bridge, the river and the poplar grove
Déjame que te cuente limeña
Let me tell you Limean woman
ahora que aún perfuma el recuerdo
now that it still perfumes the memory
ahora que aún se mece en un sueño
now that it still sways in a dream
el viejo puente, el río y la alameda
the old bridge, the river and the poplar grove
Jazmines en el pelo y rosas en la cara
Jasmines in her her hair and roses on her face
airosa caminaba la flor de la canela
gracefully walked the Cinnamon Flower
derramaba lisura y a su paso dejaba
scattering freshness and leaving as she passed by
aromas de mistura que en el pecho llevaba
aromas of the mixture that she carried in her heart
Del puente a la alameda menudo pie la lleva
From the bridge to the poplar grove small feet take her
por la vereda que se estremece
through the path that trembles
al ritmo de sus caderas
to the rythms of her hips
recojía la risa de la brisa del río
she gathered the laughter of the river breeze
y al viento la lanzaba
and tossed it into the air
del puente a la alameda
from the bridge to the poplar grove

Dejáme que te cuente limeña
Let me tell you Limean woman
Ay déjame que te diga morena
Let me tell you dark woman
mis pensamientos
my thoughts
haber si así despiertas del sueño
to see if you awake from the dream
del sueño que te entretiene morena los sentimientos
the dream that distracts your feelings
aspirarás la lisura que da la flor de canela
you will breathe the freshness that the Cinnamon flower gives
adornada con jazmines matizando tu hermosura
adorned with jasmines, enhancing your beauty
alfombras de nuevo el puente y engalanas la alameda
you carpet again the bridge and adorn the poplar grove
el río acompañará tu paso por la vereda.
The river will mark the rhythm of your step along the path
Y recuerda que
and remember that
jazmines en el pelo y rosas en la cara
jasmines in her hair and roses on her face
etc.

This is a very traditional song

* Limeña: a woman from Lima the capital of Peru.

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